

REMARKS

INTRODUCTION:

In accordance with the foregoing, claims 24 and 43 have been amended. Claim 44 has been cancelled.

Claims 1-16, 18-20, and 22-43 are pending and under consideration.

Entry of Amendment Under 37 C.F.R. §1.116:

The Applicant requests entry of this Rule 116 Response because: the amendments were not earlier presented because the Applicant believed in good faith that the cited prior art did not disclose the present invention as previously claimed; the amendment of claims 24 and 43 should not entail any further search by the Examiner since no new features are being added or no new issues are being raised; and the amendment does not significantly alter the scope of the claim and places the application at least into a better form for purposes of appeal. No new features or new issues are being raised.

The Manual of Patent Examining Procedures sets forth in Section 714.12 that "any amendment that would place the case either in condition for allowance or in better form for appeal may be entered." Moreover, Section 714.13 sets forth that "the Proposed Amendment should be given sufficient consideration to determine whether the claims are in condition for allowance and/or whether the issues on appeal are simplified." The Manual of Patent Examining Procedures further articulates that the reason for any non-entry should be explained expressly in the Advisory Action.

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. §102:

Claim 43 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Dalpane (U.S. Patent No. 4,788,999). The Examiner indicated in a December 12, 2005 telephone interview that claim 43 would be allowed if amended to include the limitations of claim 44. Claim 44 has been canceled. Amended independent claim 43 recites "A reaction apparatus... a movable hinge accommodating part with a movable hinge hole therein; a movable hinge shaft, inserted into the movable hinge hole, and connected to the first end of the inner member." Dalpane fails to teach or suggest a movable hinge accommodating part with a movable hinge hole. Withdrawal of the foregoing rejections is respectfully requested.

ALLOWABLE SUBJECT MATTER:

On page 4, claims 1-16, 18-20, and 22-42 are allowed.

CONCLUSION:

There being no further outstanding objections or rejections, it is submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. An early action to that effect is courteously solicited.

Finally, if there are any formal matters remaining after this response, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned to attend to these matters.

If there are any additional fees associated with filing of this Amendment, please charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,

STAAS & HALSEY LLP

Date: _____

3/31/06

By: _____



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